

*The Confederate War Record of William Cloud Hicklin I
as compiled by Anna Poag Hicklin*

William Cloud Hicklin enlisted from Chester County, S. C. June 13, 1861, in Company B (Dr. G. Lafayette Strait, Capt.) Sixth South Carolina Regiment. This command was in formation at Summerville at that time.

At the reorganization in Virginia, he was transferred to Co. A (W.T.D. Cousar, Capt.), as corporal. Bratton's Brigade, Pickett's Division, Longstreet's Corps, Army of Virginia. He was in seven battles: Gaines Mill, Seven Pines, Malvern Hill, Fraysser's Farm, Williamsburg, Drainsville, and Second Manassas. He lost his right arm in the Battle of Second Manassas, August 30, 1862. The elbow was crushed by a piece of shell, after which the arm was amputated, permanently disabling him for duties of a soldier in the field. He was wounded on Saturday afternoon and lay on the battlefield without food until Tuesday morning, when the arm was amputated by Dr. Wm. Wylie on the field. Dr. Wylie was from Chester County, S. C., army surgeon (whose home at that time was afterward the Jason Hicklin home, near Richburg). After the amputation, he, with other wounded were placed in carts and hauled over cobblestones roads a distance of 14 miles to Culpepper Court House, Va., where they were put in an improvised hospital, an old depot. He remained there for three weeks, when he stole into a box car and made his way to Richmond, where he received better treatment in a hospital of that city.

The ladies of Richmond gave the wounded there every attention and courtesy within their means. He was discharged from the hospital there in October 1862, and he returned to his Mother's home near Richburg. On Dec. 27, 1864, he was retired as invalid soldier from the Army of the Confederate States.

After the close of the War, he was very active in the Hampton Campaign of '76, rode in The Red Shirt Parade, and exercised every power during the Reconstruction.

He was never a member of the Ku Klux Klan on account of having lost an arm, which made identification too easy.

Addenda by William Cloud Hicklin Jr.: Often I have heard my Father say that when he was in Richmond, he went from house to house to secure clean linen rags, a clean wash basin, and soap, to avoid contracting gangrene, which was prevalent in all the hospitals.

I have heard him speak of the long, hard march from the Rappahannock with

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Longstreet, reaching Thoroughfare Gap at night; of a skirmish there with Federal forces; then marching on the Warrenton Turnpike. On Aug. 30, 1862, within sight of the Stone House, he was shooting at a Yankee Officer, on horseback at about 600 yards. After shooting twice and the minnie ball falling short, he had raised his sights on a little Enfield Rifle, and was ramming down another charge, pounding the ramrod against a dogwood tree. An artillery shell burst over his head, and a piece of shrapnel damaged his elbow. He quoted P. Wylie as saying that had he been home, he could have saved the arm. He was put on an improvised table of boards, supported by the heads of two barrels. There were no anaesthetics, so he was given a stiff drink of whiskey, and his arm was saved off. He always said that he was fortunate not to have contracted gangrene, the deadly killer of wounded soldiers.

W. A. Fudge 3rd Serg. was also wounded at the same Battle of Second Manassas. He was wounded in the foot, and the two of them helped each other to a creek to get water.